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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/511,476	08/19/2005	Theodorus Maria Janssen	67670-5002-US	4723

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EXAMINER	
TRAN, DALENA	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3661	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
08/21/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/511,476	JANSSEN, THEODORUS MARIA	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Dalena Tran	3661	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *19 August 2005*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *14-47* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *14-47* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *8/19/05*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

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APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
10511476	8/19/05	JANSSEN, THEODORUS MARIA	67670-5002-US

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EXAMINER	
Dalena Tran	
ART UNIT	**PAPER**
3661	20070817

DATE MAILED:

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner for Patents

DETAILED ACTION

Notice to Applicant(s)

1. This application has been examined. Claims 14-47 are pending.

The prior art submitted on 8/19/05 has been considered. However, the foreign patent document (GB 2266398A) has not been considered because the examiner have not received yet.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 14-18, 21-22, 24-27, 29, 33-40, and 42-47, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ciolli et al. (6546119).

As per claim 14, Ciolli et al. disclose a method for recording an incident, in particular a traffic violation, in which a vehicle is involved, comprising the steps of: detecting the incident (see the abstract; and columns 2-3, lines 63-10), making at least one record of the detected incident (see column 2, lines 48-62), searching for and reading from the record a license plate of the vehicle involved in the incident (see columns 4-5, lines 49-15), wherein during making of the record information is recorded relating to the position of the vehicle, and on the basis of this information a search is made for the

license plate in only a part of the record (see columns 5-6, lines 41-34; and column 10, lines 22-67).

As per claim 15, Ciolli et al. disclose the recorded position information comprises the travel direction of the vehicle (see column 10, lines 22-67).

As per claims 16, and 18, Ciolli et al. disclose the record is a picture record and a search for the license plate is made, on the basis of the recorded travel direction, only in a left or right-hand half of the record, the recorded position information comprises the lane in which the vehicle is located (see column 10, lines 22-67).

As per claim 17, Ciolli et al. disclose a plurality of vehicles are caught in the picture record, and a search is made, on the basis of the recorded position information, for the license plate of only one of the vehicles (see column 21, lines 1-48).

As per claim 21, Ciolli et al. disclose the incident is detected by emitting a signal and analyzing a signal reflected by the vehicle, and a set transmission range is recorded as position information (see columns 4-5, lines 49-15).

As per claim 22, Ciolli et al. disclose the incident is detected by making use of a number of fixed detection elements, and the identity of the detection element detecting the incident is recorded as position information (see columns 7-8, lines 42-30).

As per claim 24, Ciolli et al. disclose a method for recording an incident, in particular a traffic violation, in which a vehicle is involved, comprising the steps of:

detecting the incident (see the abstract; and columns 2-3, lines 63-10), making at least one record of the detected incident, including recording information relating to the position of the vehicle, and on the basis of the recorded position information searching only a part of the record for a license plate of the vehicle involved in the incident (see columns 5-6, lines 41-34), wherein the recorded position information includes the direction of travel of the vehicle (see column 10, lines 22-67).

As per claim 25, Ciolli et al. disclose the record is a picture record and a search for the license plate is made, on the basis of the recorded travel direction, only in a left or right-hand half of the record (see column 10, lines 22-67).

As per claim 26, Ciolli et al. disclose a plurality of vehicles are caught in the picture record, and a search is made, on the basis of the recorded position information, for the license plate of only one of the vehicles (see column 21, lines 1-48).

As per claim 27, Ciolli et al. disclose the incident is detected by making use of a number of fixed detection elements, and the identity of the detection element detecting the incident is recorded as position information (see columns 7-8, lines 42-30).

As per claim 29, Ciolli et al. disclose a method for recording an incident, in particular a traffic violation, in which a vehicle is involved, comprising the steps of:

detecting the incident (see the abstract; and columns 2-3, lines 63-10), making at least one record of the detected incident, including recording information relating to the position of the vehicle, and on the basis of the recorded position information searching only a part of the record for a license plate of the vehicle involved in the incident (see

columns 5-6, lines 41-34), wherein the recorded position information includes the lane in which the vehicle is traveling (see column 10, lines 22-67).

Claims 33, and 34 are system claims corresponding to method claims 14, and 17 above. Therefore, they are rejected for the same rationales set forth as above.

As per claim 35, Ciolli et al. disclose wherein the recorder is adapted to make picture records, and the reader is adapted to identify and read the license plate from the picture record by optical means (see columns 18-19, lines 48-65; and column 21, lines 1-48).

As per claim 36, Ciolli et al. disclose the recorder is an analog camera making picture records on film (see column 7, lines 27-41).

As per claim 37, Ciolli et al. disclose the recorder is a digital camera including a memory for storing the picture records made (see columns 2-3, lines 63-10).

As per claim 38, Ciolli et al. disclose the camera is arranged near a road and the reader is arranged at a central location remote from the road, the camera being connected to the central location via a cable or a wireless network (see the abstract; and columns 4-5, lines 49-15).

As per claim 39, Ciolli et al. disclose the reader comprises a suitably programmed computer including software for optical character recognition (see columns 18-19, lines 48-65).

As per claim 40, Ciolli et al. disclose the detector unit comprises a radar trap arranged near a road (see columns 4-5, lines 49-15).

As per claim 42, Ciolli et al. disclose a system for recording an incident, in particular a traffic violation, in which a vehicle is involved, comprising: a detector unit arranged in or near a road on which vehicles travel for detecting the incident (see columns 4-5, lines 49-15), a camera arranged over or near the road and connected to the detector unit for making at least one pictorial record of the detected incident, the camera being adapted to include in the record information relating to the position of the vehicle (see columns 5-6, lines 41-34; and column 10, lines 22-67), and a reader for searching, on the basis of the recorded position information, only a part of the record for a license plate of the vehicle involved in the incident and for reading the license plate from the record, the reader being adapted to identify and read the license plate from the pictorial record by optical means (see columns 18-19, lines 48-65).

As per claims 43-44, Ciolli et al. disclose the reader comprises a suitably programmed computer including software for optical character recognition, and the camera is a digital camera including a memory for storing each pictorial record made, the camera being adapted for recording the position information as attachment to a data file containing the pictorial record (see columns 10-12, lines 59-32).

As per claim 45, Ciolli et al. disclose the camera is an analog camera adapted for making pictorial records on film and for displaying the position information in each pictorial record (see columns 7-8, lines 27-30).

As per claim 46, Ciolli et al. disclose the reader is adapted to search the record for position information, to select a part of the record on the basis of this position information, and to search only the selected part of the record for the license plate of the vehicle (see column 10, lines 22-67).

As per claim 47, Ciolli et al. disclose the reader is adapted to display the record as image on a screen for human checking if no position information is found (see columns 10-12, lines 59-32).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 19-20, 23, 28, and 30-32, are rejected under 35 U.S.C.103(a) as being unpatentable over Ciolli et al. (6546119) in view of Glier et al. (6573929).

As per claims 19, and 30, Ciolli et al. do not disclose search for the license plate only in a relatively narrow vertical strip of the record. However, Glier et al. disclose wherein the record is a picture record and a search for the license plate is made, on the basis of the recorded position information, only in a relatively narrow vertical strip of the record (see column 5, lines 1-63; columns 6-7, lines 13-6; and columns 7-8, lines 51-12). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teach of Ciolli et al. by combining search for the license plate

only in a relatively narrow vertical strip of the record to detect the license plate of only desired vehicle.

As per claim 20, Ciolli et al. disclose a plurality of vehicles are caught in the picture record, and a search is made, on the basis of the recorded position information, for the license plate of only one of the vehicles (see column 21, lines 1-48).

As per claims 23, and 28, Ciolli et al. do not disclose distance to the vehicle. However, Glier et al. disclose during detecting of the incident the distance to the vehicle is measured as position information (see column 10, lines 1-41; columns 11-12, lines 46-26; and columns 13-15, lines 10-17). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teach of Ciolli et al. by combining distance to the vehicle to accurate determining vehicle position and recording vehicle license plate.

As per claim 31, Ciolli et al. disclose a plurality of vehicles are caught in the picture record, and a search is made, on the basis of the recorded position information, for the license plate of only one of the vehicles (see column 21, lines 1-48).

As per claim 32, Ciolli et al. disclose the incident is detected by making use of a number of fixed detection elements, and the identity of the detection element detecting the incident is recorded as position information (see columns 7-8, lines 42-30).

6. Claim 41, is rejected under 35 U.S.C.103(a) as being unpatentable over Ciolli et al. (6546119) in view of Kavner (7068185).

As per claim 41, Ciolli et al. do not disclose induction loop. However, Kavner discloses the detector unit comprises a plurality of induction loop arranged in a road (see columns 6-7, lines 63-24). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teach of Ciolli et al. by combining induction loop for detecting vehicle events.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

. L.B. Scott (3222682)

. Yagi et al. (5850191)

. Alves (6650765)

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dalena Tran whose telephone number is 571-272-6968. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 6:30 AM-4:00 PM), off every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas Black can be reached on 571-272-6956. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Patent Examiner

Dalena Tran

August 17, 2007